

Abstract

A pressure relief valve (12) for relieving air pressure from a passenger compartment (14) of a vehicle (10) includes a base (18) having a peripheral portion (30). A central opening (42) extends through the peripheral portion (30). The pressure relief valve (12) also includes a plurality of flaps (74) for closing the central opening (42) of the base (18). Each flap (74) has an outer end (82) connected with the peripheral portion (30) of the base (18) and an inner end (80) that is movable relative to the peripheral portion (30) and the other flaps (74) for enabling airflow through the central opening (42). Each flap (74) has opposite surfaces (76 and 78) against which air pressure acts. Differential air pressure acts on the opposite surfaces (76 and 78) causing the flap (74) to move to enable airflow through the central opening (42).